

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 802
By McNally

A RESOLUTION to name US 322 within the city limits of
Sweetwater the "Billy R. Ridenour Highway."

WHEREAS, from time to time, the General Assembly has been asked to name certain byways and bridges in honor of those outstanding public servants whose efforts have redounded to the great benefit of all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, Billy R. Ridenour served with distinction for 18 years as Mayor of the City of Sweetwater and is now choosing to take a much deserved retirement from that office; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure as Mayor, Billy Ridenour has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, elected to his first term in 1981, Mayor Ridenour leaves behind an impressive legacy of accomplishment for the City of Sweetwater, from attracting new industry to improvements for Highway 322; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Ridenour provided steady leadership during times of emergency, when flooding occurred in Sweetwater, and especially in 1996 when a train derailment created a toxic chemical spill; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Billy R. Ridenour is greatly admired and respected for his patriotic spirit that ensured Sweetwater would annually celebrate the Fourth of July and honor our military veterans on Veterans Day with parades through the city on both days; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ridenour's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the segment of US 322 that lies within the boundaries of the City of Sweetwater, Tennessee, is hereby designated as the "Billy R. Ridenour Highway" in honor of the exemplary former Mayor of Sweetwater, Billy R. Ridenour, in appreciation for his commitment to public service and his community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating such segment of US 322 within the city limits of Sweetwater, Tennessee, as the "Billy R. Ridenour Highway."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the erection of such directional signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the resolution shall become operative only if the federal highway Administrator advises the Commissioner of Transportation in writing that the provisions of this resolution shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, (1) that this resolution shall become operative only if Sweetwater, Tennessee, either remits the estimated cost of the erection of such signs to the Department of Transportation within one (1) year of the effective date of this act or manufactures such signs in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2). The City of Sweetwater shall make such payment prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the City of Sweetwater within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, the City of Sweetwater shall remit an amount equal to the difference in such costs to the department within thirty (30) days of receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

(2) The City of Sweetwater may manufacture and erect such signs provided, that such signs are manufactured and erected pursuant to state and federal guidelines and approved by the department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Commissioner of Transportation.